



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Colleen Bednarz  
831.462.5660 ext.2  
[media@saveourshores.org](mailto:media@saveourshores.org)

## **Volunteers Prevent 1,657 Pounds of Pollution from Entering Monterey Bay Sanctuary Today**

**(July 5th, 2011) Santa Cruz, CA** - Save Our Shores (SOS) staff and 263 community volunteers came together for the July 5<sup>th</sup> Star Spangled Beach Cleanup today to prevent 1,657 pounds of pollution from entering the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and harming marine wildlife.

The 'morning after' July 5<sup>th</sup> Star Spangled Beach Cleanup is the second largest community cleanup of the year here on the Central Coast. With 162 volunteers in Santa Cruz County and 101 volunteers participating in Monterey County, the 2011 Star Spangled Beach Cleanup was the largest July 5<sup>th</sup> beach cleanup to date.

The July 5<sup>th</sup> beach cleanup took place this year in Santa Cruz County at Davenport Main, Panther, Cowell/Main, Seabright, Twin Lakes, Moran Lake, and Seacliff/Rio Del Mar beaches. In Monterey County the Star Spangled Beach Cleanup took place at Del Monte Beach, Monterey State Beach, and Carmel Beach.

Top 3 dirtiest beaches in the 2011 July 5<sup>th</sup> Star Spangled Beach Cleanup, determined by total poundage removed only, in both counties combined and in order: Seabright Beach, Main/Cowell Beach, Panther Beach.

"SOS has been running July 4th and 5th efforts in Santa Cruz for several years and we've found that our pollution prevention efforts on July 4th decreases the total amount of trash left behind on local beaches. We've also seen an increase in cleanup volunteers on July 5<sup>th</sup>," says Emily Glanville, program manager for Save Our Shores, "and are excited to bring this same success to Monterey County. We hope to continue to see more stewardship of our Sanctuary from locals and visitors alike."

"Today was the second largest beach cleanup of the year on the Monterey Bay, removing 1,386 pounds of trash and 271 pounds of recycling from our beaches. Thank you to all of the ocean heroes who got up early to remove a total of 1,657 pounds of pollution from our beaches today," says Andrew Hoeksema, coordinator of volunteer programs at Save Our Shores.

Santa Cruz County had 162 volunteers working together to remove a total of 1,354 pounds of trash and recyclables on seven beaches. Monterey County saw 101 volunteers work together to remove a total of 303 pounds of trash and recyclables from three beaches. [Link to YouTube video...](#)

In addition, Save Our Shores conducted Pollution Prevention outreach on six beaches on July 4<sup>th</sup>, where 28 volunteers handed out 1,650 trash and recycling bags and reached out to 4,850 people about the importance of ocean stewardship. July 4<sup>th</sup> Pollution Prevention efforts continually prove to be an important tool for stemming the tide of pollution left behind by the thousands of visitors to our area's beaches each holiday.

**About Save Our Shores:** Save Our Shores is the Central Coast leader in caring for the marine environment through ocean awareness, advocacy and citizen action. Our core initiatives are Plastic Pollution, Clean Boating, and Ocean Awareness. Over the last 30 years, Save Our Shores helped to establish the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, prevent offshore oil drilling and cruise ship pollution, and today focuses on educating youth about our local watersheds, tackling pollution on our beaches and rivers, implementing our renowned DockWalker program, and providing our community with educated and inspired Sanctuary Stewards. For more information visit: [www.saveourshores.org](http://www.saveourshores.org).

345 Lake Avenue, Suite A, Santa Cruz, CA 95062 | 831.462.5660 | [www.saveourshores.org](http://www.saveourshores.org)

*Caring for the marine environment through ocean awareness, advocacy and citizen action.*